

A NEW SPECIES OF RHODESIELLA FROM GUAM
(Diptera, Chloropidae)

BY CURTIS W. SABROSKY

*Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Agricultural
Research Administration, United States Department
of Agriculture*

In a small series of Chloropidae from Guam, submitted to me for determination by G. E. Bohart, was an undescribed species of *Rhodesiella* Adams. The genus ranges in a number of species through the Ethiopian and Indo-Australian regions. The present species appears almost identical with *R. macgregori* (Malloch) from the Philippines, but can be distinguished by the striking development of the male genitalia.

Rhodesiella boharti Sabrosky, new species

A species of the *tarsalis* group, with elongate scutellum, black femora and tibiae, blue-black frontal triangle with nearly acute apex, and the ultimate section of the fourth vein (= R_{4+5}) straight.

♂, ♀. Predominantly black, only the basal two-thirds of the third antennal segment, the stalks of the halteres, the trochanters, ends of the tibiae narrowly, and the basal segments of the tarsi, yellow. Frontal triangle polished, dark bluish black, the apex narrowly rounded at the anterior margin of the front and not truncate as in *normalis* Malloch and *scutellata* de Meijere. The distinctly pubescent arista is long, its length subequal to the height of the head.

Mesonotum shining black, rather thickly beset with short, pale hairs, slightly wider than long (as 58:55), its length nearly twice that of the scutellum (55:30). The latter appears elongate conical, its length slightly greater than its basal width, with a pair of long apical and one pair of short subapical scutellar bristles. Fore tarsi with the three distal segments black, the second light brown; middle and hind tarsi with only the apical segment black, the fourth light brown. Femora not greatly enlarged, the hind pair without short spines or teeth on the ventral side near the base.

Wings with the ultimate section of the fourth vein practically straight, very slightly curved basally; the second and third veins slightly concave anteriorly, third costal sector one and one-quarter times the second sector.

Male genitalia larger than usual in the genus, shining black, each half of the hypopygium with a long curving prolongation which extends ventrocephalad along the underside of the abdomen at rest, and which has 15 to 16 long black setae radiating from the apical portion, each seta as long as the hypopygium itself and sinuate at the tip. The dorsal part of each half of the hypopygium bears on its mesal margin a forwardly directed black bristle, fully as long as the terminal setae but much stronger, as well as a row of long but weaker setae extending along the inner margin of the prolongation from the mesal bristle nearly to the curling apex with its long radiating setae. At rest, without the genitalia extended, the numerous long bristles appear as a complex network beneath the abdomen, quite unlike *R. macgregori* which is otherwise very similar to the present species.

Length, 2-2.5 mm.

Holotype, male, PILGO RIVER, GUAM, May 26, 1945. *Allotype*, near POINT MANELL, GUAM, May 19, 1945. *Paratypes*, male, same data as allotype; male, POINT OCA, GUAM, May 7, 1945; female, Point Oca, Guam, May 20, 1945, on dead mollusks; five males, six females, Point Oca, Guam, May, 1945, in light trap. All collected by G. E. Bohart and J. L. Gressitt. Type and allotype deposited in the United States National Museum, No. 58002.

In Malloch's synopsis of the genus (1931, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 10, 8: 49-69), the species will run to *macgregori* Malloch, described from a lone specimen from Manila in the Philippines. From the description alone, it would be impossible to separate the present specimens, but a study of the type of the former has confirmed the validity of the species from Guam.

The holotype of *macgregori*—fortunately a male—had been mounted from fluid and was not deeply colored. It seems quite probable that in life the tibiae were more extensively infuscated than was indicated in Malloch's description. There is also a strong suggestion that the tarsi were not "entirely yellow," as described, but that the apical segments were brown to blackish, probably the same segments as described above for *R. boharti*. The male genitalia proved to be relatively small and inconspicuous in the type of *macgregori*, with the small hypopygium not prolonged and not bearing unusually long setae.